CUMM1.012A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Chad C. Smutney et al.

Appl. No.:

09/757,138

Filed

January 9, 2001

For

BLUNTABLE NEEDLE ASSEMBLY

WITH OPEN-ENDED BLUNTING

PROBE

Examiner:

Roz Ghafoorian

Group Art Unit 32

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class

mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

October 22, 2003

(Date)

Reg. No. 44,185

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

OCT 28 OCT 28 Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to an Office Action mailed on July 22, 2003 are responsive ly filed by October 22, 2003. is timely filed by October 22, 2003.